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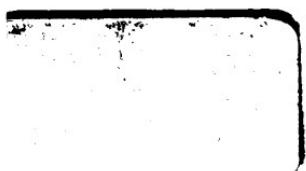
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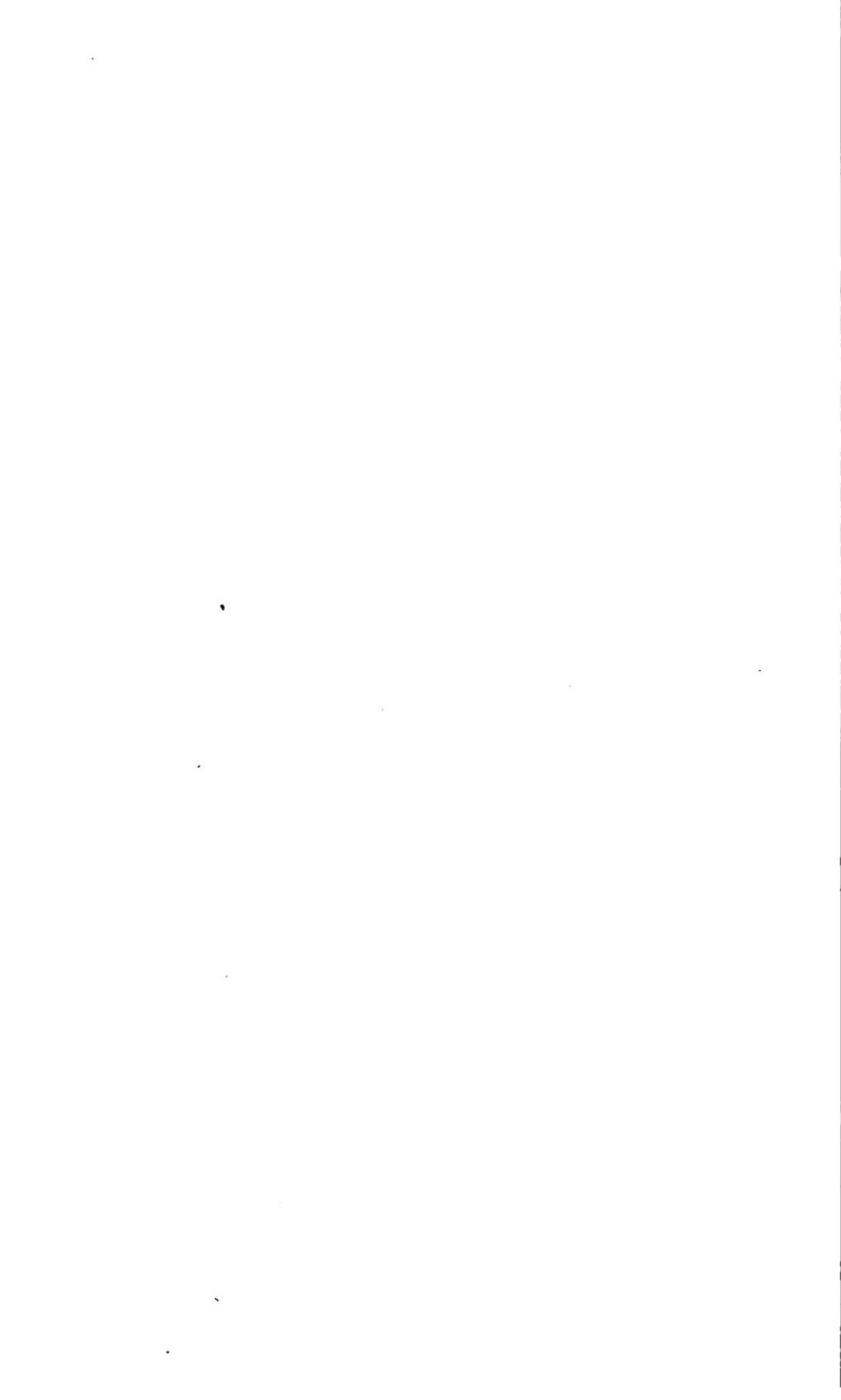


CO  
NORTHALLERTON

CROSFIELD







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**T H E**  
**H I S T O R Y**  
**O F**  
**NORTH-ALLERTON.**

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THE  
HISTORY  
OF  
NORTH-ALLERTON,  
IN THE  
COUNTY OF YORK.

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TO WHICH IS ADDED  
A DESCRIPTION  
OF THE  
CASTLE-HILLLS.  
By Miss A. CROSSLAND.

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NORTH ALLERTON:  
Printed by and for J. LANGDALE; and sold by  
Messrs. WILSON, SPENCE, AND MAWMAN, YORK.  
1791.

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T H E  
H I S T O R Y  
O F  
NORTH-ALLERTON.

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C H A P. I.

*Of the Name of the Town.*

THE name of this place is in Domesday-book,\* the earliest authority in which it occurs, written both *Alvertune* and *Alreton*; Simeon *Dunelmensis*, who flourished about the year 1120, calls it *Alvertona*; and Peter de Langetoft, or his translator, *Alverton*; as it stands in all our other ancient histories and records that mention it. This gave Mr. Gale reason to believe that it took its name from

\* An authentic and particular survey of all England, except the four Northern Counties, made by order of the Conqueror, between the 14th and 20th years of his reign, and now remaining in the Exchequer: Copies whereof have been lately printed by authority of Parliament.

the great King Alfred, and was originally called *Aluredtune*, which was afterwards softened into *Alvertun*, and *Allerton*.\* However, as the abundance of Allertons in this County, beside that of which we are now treating, being at least seven, § renders it impossible to conceive that they were all founded and named after this monarch, it must appear much more reasonable to suppose that the name is a mere incident to the situation of each place, or owing to some other circumstance common to all. And this seems likely enough to be that the particular spot or adjacent country has formerly abounded in *Alders*; a tree of which one species is said to affect a dry and elevated situation, and the other is a "most

\* An historical account of the Borough of Northallerton, written in the year 1739, by Roger Gale Esq; printed in Nichols's *Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica*, No. 2. Part 2. 1781.

§ These are Allerton Bywater, Allerton Gledhow, Allerton Grange, Allerton Maleverer, Allerton with Wilfden, Chapel Allerton, and Moor Allerton. We also find an Allerston and three Allerthorpes. There is likewise an Allerton in Lancashire, Shropshire, in Somersetshire, in Northamptonshire and perhaps in other parts. Many of these places were probably so called in Alfred's own time. We even find him keeping his court at *Aller* in Somersetshire, where Guthrum the Danish King came to him, and was baptized, &c.

faithful lover of watery and boggy places ; *Craffique paludibus alni.*\* The latter sort is now called, in Yorkshire, *Ellers* ; hence *Ellerbeck*, a hamlet on Codbeck, about four miles east of Northallerton ; hence also the *Ellerburns*, *Ellerbys*, *Ellerkers*, and *Ellertons*, in different parts of the County ; nothing, as Mr. Thoresby observes, being more familiar in former ages than for towns and territories to receive names from the sort of wood with which they abounded ; an observation which might be supported by almost innumerable instances. Lambarde gives us the name in Saxon Characters *Ealferton*, as Camden about the same time, and Skinner after him gave it *Ealfer-tun* : Though it is very much to be regretted that neither the one nor the other of these wri-

\* Thoresby's *Ducatus Leodiensis*, p. 124. It is not, however, meant to subscribe to the propriety of this writer's change of *ton* to *dor*, as signifying the *Alderbills* : the former of these terminations being unquestionably our present *town* ; a distinction which the Saxons appear to have adopted with regard to such villages as either they had themselves erected, or, at least, were not in some manner fortified. Places left by the Romans or Britons, or defended by walls and ditches they generally if not uniformly called *caister*, *borough*, or *bury*, from the latin *castra*, or their own word *brygean* to dig, whence our *bury* to inter.

ters has made us acquainted with his authority, which cannot be the Saxon chronicle, as the name does not once occur in it. The distinction of *North*, which it had obtained at least five hundred years ago, is chiefly if not wholly owing to Allerton *Maleverer*, about 25 miles South, near the London road, between Boroughbridge and Wetherby ; formerly the estate of an ancient family of that name, which resided here for several generations, but has been long extinct.\*

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## C H A P. II.

### *Of its Antiquity and Ancient State.*

IT is the observation of a very judicious and learned antiquary that if the origins of the more learned nations, Greeks and Romans, be uncertain, much more are those of the western parts : and if national antiquities be

\* Gale's historical account. It was sometime in possession of the Arundels, and having come by descent to the present Lord Gallway, was by him sold to the Duke of York, of whom it has been since purchased by Colonel Thornton.

obscure, parochial for sure are more uncertain. All, therefore, he says, that can be asserted with safety is, that, while the government of the Britons or Romans continued, these parts, meaning Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Westmoreland, were inhabited by the *Brigantes*, a people stout and numerous.\* Camalodunum, a city of these *Brigantes*, being mentioned by Antoninus, Ptolomy, Pliny, and Tacitus, Sir Thomas Savile, in a letter to Camden, conjectures it to be Northallerton, and adds, that the Bishop of Durham had a charter, in which "*Patria de Camuloduno, continens iii. leucas in latitudine, atque xv. in longitudine, ab Edwino Northumbrorum rege epis- copis Dunelmenibus conceditur;*" and that the see of Durham under this very charter enjoyed the territory of Northallerton at that day.†

Mr. Gale pronounces this place so very ancient that its origin is totally unknown. It appears clearly, he says, to have been a Saxon Borough, and, like many others, to have

\* Thoresby's *Ducatus Leodienus*. § *Transitum Vitorum Epistola, &c. 1691. p. 9.*

risen out of the ashes of some old Roman station, whose name we have lost ; which he thinks the adjacent hamlet of Romanby (*Romanorum habitatio*) sufficiently denotes. And this is confirmed, he says, by the high and ancient mounds or intrenchments in the vicinity of the town, thought by the judicious to have been Roman works, and by the vestiges of the military way, leading from *Derventio*, or Aldby, by Easingwould, Thirsk, and Romanby, to Catterick, where it joins the great Ermington-street.\* Without meaning to controvert the evidence or authenticity of these unquestionably ancient remains, it may be reasonably doubted whether the name of Romanby is owing either to the Roman works in its neighbourhood, to the Roman way which runs through it, or, in short, to any other connection with the Romans. Had this been the case, we may readily suppose that similar circumstances would have given the same name to other places ; so that every town

\* Registrum Honoris de Richmond, ap. p. 237. Historical Account, &c.

situated near a Roman encampment, or upon a Roman road, would, in consequence, have been called Romanby. But this is so far from being the fact, that there does not appear to be any other village of the same name throughout the kingdom. In Domesday-book it is called *Romundebi*, a name it most probably derives from its Saxon founder, or proprietor. It has already been observed that Domesday-book is the oldest authority in which any mention of this place occurs; but Simion of Durham, who lived in the following century, in a passage which there will be elsewhere occasion to quote, speaks of it in the third year of William the Conqueror, or 1069; and Peter Langetoft, who wrote a chronicle in French verse, in the time of King Edward the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>d</sup>, and which was translated and improved in the latter of those reigns, by Robert of Brunne, expressly mentions it in his account of King Elfrid, Anno 865.

Tille Elfride oure kyng com tithinges starke,  
That fyue kynges, and fyue erles ver comen of Denmarke,  
That wild on him renne, and reve him the coroune,  
With alle ther grete folk, thei lay in *Aluertonne*.

It appears from Domesday-book that in *Alvertune*, as it is there called, were at that time (i. e. in the year 1080) 44 carucates of land,\* taxed or rated (ad geldum), of which 30 might be plowed ; that Edwin Earl [of Mercia] held it for one manor in the time of King Edward the Confessor, and had 66 villains, or bondmen, with 35 ploughs : That there belonged to this manor 11 berewites or villages : *Brettebi, Smitetune, Sourebi, Smitune, Kirby, Corketune, Landemot, Bergebi, Griftorentun, Romundebi, Jaforbes*§ : That at the time of making the survey it was in the King's hands and waste : But in the Confessor's time it was worth fourscore pounds : That here was a meadow of 40 acres, a wood and plain of 5 leagues in length, and the same in breadth : That to this manor belong-

\* A caracute was so much land as sufficed for a single plough, or which could be conveniently tilled by one plough in the space of a year ; whence it was also called *colonia*, *colonica*, or a plough-land. The quantity differed in different places, as the quantity of soil required more or less labour.

§ Now *Birkby, Great-Smeaton, Sowerby, Little-Smeaton, Kirby-Wisk*, (*Corktune is unknown*) *Langmouth, Burrowby, Thornton-le-moor, Romanby*, and *Yafforth*.

ed a soke, or liberty of the following lands or places : *Neubuse, Westbuse, Mannebl, Werlegesbi, Eindrebi, Jasforde, Leisenebi, Digneshale, Runtune, Irebi, Herelsaie, Sigheftun, Colebi, Thimblebi, Leche, Chenneton, Ravenstorp, Torrentun, Croxebi, Ottrinctun, Romundebi, Brinton, Cheluintun, Keneuetun\**. The town, before the conquest, seems to have been held by Siward earl of Northumberland, with the shire belonging to it, and was, in all probability, destroyed when the Conqueror, enraged by the rebellion against him in these parts, laid waste all the country between York and Durham, in the third year of his reign, which may account for the expression in the survey, *modo wastum est§*. By an inquisition taken at *Northalverton*, in the seventh year of the reign of king Edward III, be-

\* At present Newhouse, Westhouse, Maunby, Warlaby, Ainderby-Steeple, Yafforth, Laisenby, Dinsdale, Rounton, Girsby, Harlsey, Siston, Cowlsby, Thimbleby, Leke, Winton, Ravensthorp, Thornton, Crosby, Otterington, Romanby, Brompton, Kilvington, and Knayton.

§ Historical Account, &c. Mr. Gale conjectures that it might have been destroyed by Beornredus, or Earnredus, who burnt down Catterick, but 8 miles distant, in the year 769.

fore Ralph de Nevill, *custos* of the bishoprick of Durham, then vacant, and in the king's hands, it is found that the men of this town were free and of free condition, *liberi et liberæ conditionis*; and had and held the same town with the tofts and crofts\* therein; and also the market and fair thereof, with all the profits thence arising, of the bishop of Durham in fee, at the rent of 40 marks of silver, without other customs and services. It is also found that in all the pleas of lands or tenements within the same town, the men thereof were to compose the jury: And that if any one of the town were impleaded in the free court of the lord bishop at *Northalverton*, the two *præpositi*, or *reves*, of the same town, or one of them, with his bailiff there, should come to court, and assign to the parties the third day of plea in the Toll-booth (*tbeolnjo*). It is likewise found that Anthony bishop of Durham, deceased, and the late and present king, had taken 20l. of the

\* A *toft* signifies the place where a house formerly stood, and even sometimes where it still continues to stand. A *croft* is a little garth or close adjoining to a toft.

townsmen by extortion, and against their will. It further appears from this inquisition, that the bishop had plea of *baymoken*, *blodewite*, and replevin, with the amends of the assize of bread and ale broken, of butchers and forestallers\*: Liberties which he still preserves in the name of Court-Leet and Court-Baron, held twice a year, after Easter and Michaelmass ; the latter of these courts having a great number of copyholders upon it, who pay a moderate fine on alienation§. But neither the above rent of 40 marks, nor any other, is now paid to him by the town.

## C H A P. III.

*Of its Situation and Present State.*

**T**HIS town of Allerton is situated in a part of the North-riding of the county of York, to which it has for ages given the name

\* Regist. honor. de Richmond, ap. No. 124. Plea of *baymoken* and *blodewite* is judicial cognizance of *forcible entry* and *bloodshed*. *Wite* is a mulct or penalty.

§ Gale's Historical Account, &c.

of a shire ; and is 32 miles north of York, and 34 south of Durham. It consists of one wide street, above half a mile in length, though not every where of equal breadth. It is well paved from side to side, and several good houses having been lately erected in it, has become much more beautiful and commodious than formerly. At about a third of its length from the south end stands the Toll-booth, an old ugly building, where the sessions of the peace for the north-riding were till lately held. A little further stands the Market-cross, erected upon four assents of stone, the same as itself ; and then, still more northward, are the Shambles ; all belonging to the bishop of Durham, who leases them out, with the tolls, at a reserved rent of 8l. besides a fine on renewal. Their annual value is about 80l. The town was never incorporated, neither is there any particular manufactory carried on therein\*.

\* It appears to have formerly enjoyed a distinguished reputation for the particular manufacture, if we may be allowed the expression, of *Strong Ale*, which we are sorry to find at present, not only here, but almost every where else, very much upon the decline. Observe, on this topic, Mr. Giles Morrington of the

From its situation on the great north road it has always been a considerable thorough fair, and contains several good inns for the accommodation of travellers. The Register-office for the North-riding, built in the year 1736, stands on the east side of the town; and about 60 yards east of it, is a magnificent building, erected within these few years for a Session-house, House of Correction, &c.

On the east row, opposite the Church, is an old tenement called the *Porch-house*, where it is said king Charles the 1st. lodged in one of his progresses to the north. A small brook, running from east to west, called Sunbeck, crosses the street about the middle of the town, over which are two stone bridges for foot passengers and horses. This "very little bek" is noticed by Leland; who adds that "a little by north without Alverton toun, is a bridg of one arch of stone, through the

place, in his "Praise of Yorkshire Ale," (York, 1697. 12mo.)

"NORTHALLERTON, in Yorkshire, does excell

"All England, nay, all Europe for Strong ALE."

And the person, it seems, most celebrated at that time for making this "humming stuff," as he elsewhere calls it, was MRS. BRADLEY.

which commith a bigger broke then Sunnebek, and rising partly out of ..... commith toward the west, and passith through the meadows, betwixt the Castelle Hilles and the bishopes Palace, and thereabout receyvith Sunnebek, and within half a mile lower goith into Wisk." The name of this "bigger broke" is *Willow-beck*\*. The bridge is still in being, though not identically the same which Leland saw. The town has no armorial ensign.

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## C H A P. IV.

*Of the Castle and Episcopal Palace.*

**T**HE Castle was built near the town on the west side, by Geoffrey, surnamed *Rufus*, bishop of Durham, in the time of

\* *Northallerton*, by whom her honour‡ is increas'd,  
Whose liberties include a country at the least,  
To grace the wandering Wifke, then well upon her way,  
Which, by her countenance, thinks to carry all away ;  
Then having her receiv'd, Swale bonny Codbeck brings,  
And *Willow-beck* with her two pretty revellings.

DRAYTON'S POLYOLBION.

‡ The North-Riding.

king Henry the 1<sup>st</sup>, but much nearer to it than the old Roman castrum\*. William Cummin, chancellor of Scotland, who, on the death of bishop Geoffrey in 1140, during the troubles between king Stephen and the empress Maud, had usurped the see which he had detained by force, for three years, and is by some said to have himself built this Castle, which he gave to his nephew William, whom he had married to a daughter of the earl of Albemarle. Upon the election of *Sancta Barbara*, dean of York, in 1143, this Cummin, who was then in London, hastened to Durham, and after committing the most abandoned and horrid cruelties, at last, through the mediation of the archbishop of York, consented to a peace with the bishop, upon the following terms: That Richard, another nephew of Cummin, should enjoy the castle and lordship of Allerton, to be held of the bishop, into whose hands all other possessions of the see

\* Gale's Historical Account.

were to be resigned\*. It seems that Cummin took an early occasion to violate this agreement, and began the war afresh ; but whether from not meeting with his usual success, being now broken with age and infirmities ; from the king's authority being better established ; from the death of his nephew William, which happened about this time§, or, from whatever other cause, he soon after made submission to the bishop, and threw himself naked at his feet, professing repentance of his evil deeds, promising restitution to every one he had injured, and left the bishop to enjoy the see in 1144†. Hugh Pudsey, bishop of Durham, either new built or fortified this castle in 1173 or 4 ; and delivered it into the custody of his nephew Hugh, count of Bar, whom he had sent for from Flanders ; but king Henry II. made him demolish it again in less than four years afterwards, notwithstanding the great sum he offered to

\* Sim. Dunelm. Hist. Cont. Jo. Hagulst. Gale's Historical Account.

§ He died raving mad, at Kirk-Merrington, as he was making St. John's Church there a place of guard for his soldiers.

† Sim. Dunelm. Hist. Cont. Jo. Hagulst.

redeem it\*. It was never rebuilt, and though the “diches and the dungeon hille wher it sumtyme stode” were apparent in Leland’s time, there was not even then a vestige of the walls remaining. This author, however, says that one *Goffelyn Daivel*, a partisan, as it seems, of Thomas earl of Lancaster, and who was finally executed for robbery, fortified the manor of Allerton, in the time of Edward II§. But it is not clear whether by the word *manor*, we are to understand the castle, or

\* Gale’s Historical Account. Several historians say that he actually gave the king 1000 marks, “*pro amore suo habendo et ut castella sua starent.*” Benedict. Abbas. Brompton, ap. x Script. Lambarde indeed says, that this bishop Hugh “among many things that he compassed at Richard the first’s handes, what tyme he made his expedition toward Jerusalem, obtayned that this castle might stand, notwithstandinge that, order was taken for the pullinge downe of al other which had bene lately buylt in tyme of cyville warre. But for al that,” he adds, “the king caused it to be rased sone after.” This, however, must be a mistake, since Geoffrey de Coldingham, an ancient Durham historian, in the *Anglia Sacra*, i. 723, speaking of the acts of bishop Hugh, in the time of Henry II, says, that he fortified the town (or castle) of *Averton*, having obtained that when all other castles were destroyed, this alone should remain entire. Yet the king afterwards commanded it to be overthrown and laid level with the ground. Hoveden, who says that this and other castles were demolished by Henry in 1177, calls it “*Castellum novum de Averton.*”

§ Leland’s Collect. Gale’s Historical Account.

only the manor-house, or the town itself. It is, however, certain that the bishops of Durham had here a palace, or manor-place, by whomsoever built, which stood about 200 yards west of the church. "At the west side of Northalverton," says Leland, "a little from the chirch, is the bishop of Dyrhams Palace, strong of building and welle motid." This Palace, which was become ruinous in Lambarde's time, seems to be the "wheather beaten castle" described by a singular traveller in 1658, who represents it as "demolish'd with age, and the ruins of time," and serving "as a receptacle for bats and buzzards, owls and jackdaws"\*. A good piece of the gate-house was standing about thirty years since ; but through the injuries of time, and the violence of illiterate hands, not the smallest vestige of it now remains.

\* Northern Memoirs by Richard Franck. 1694. p. 223.



## C H A P. V.

*Of its Representation in Parliament.*

**T**HIS Borough first sent members to Parliament in the year 1298, being the 26th of Edward I. Their names were John le Clerk, and Stephen Maunsell; but none were ever afterwards returned till the year 1640, when on the 11th of December, it was ordered by the House of Commons, in what is called the long parliament, "That the towns of Malton and Allerton, which formerly sent burgesses, but for some time had discontinued, [should] be restored and remitted to their ancient privilege of sending burgesses to parliament\*; which they have ever since constantly done. The right of election is in the owners of burgage houses, which were in 1739 truly in number but 194 and a

\* Gale's Historical Account, Carew's Rights of Election, &c. There are many instances of boroughs, &c. sending members as these two places did, in Edward the first's time, but which have never been restored; as, for example, Pickering, Tickbill, &c. The occasion of this discontinuance was, probably, the expence of the members' wages, which must have been a heavy burthen on poor and thinly inhabited places. See Regist. Honor. de Rickmond.

half, and are distinguished from other houses in the town by their having had a right of common on the north-moor, as appears by the deed of partition thereof, which is still extant; and if any of the burgage-houses have not some parcel of ground, formerly parcel of that moor, it is because the owners have since sold their share. Most of these houses pay a small fee farm rent to the crown. The houses claiming votes had, in 1739, increased to about 204, and not being well known which of them had crept clandestinely into this privilege, it is presumed they have retained it; but the number was then and is now so settled that it has not since been, nor will it hereafter be, possible to admit any more of those usurpations: The bishop of Durham's bailiff is the returning officer\*. The following is a list of the members which have been sent to parliament by this borough§,

\* Gale's Historical Account. Of the above 204 burgage-houses 92 are the property of Lord Harewood and Henry Peirce, Esq;

§ To prevent the confusion incident to an indiscriminate use of the words *town* and *borough*, it may be necessary to explain

since its restoration to that right.

- 1640 Thomas Heblewaite, esq ;  
Sir Henry Cholmley, knt. (*et in vice unius*, Richard Darley, esq ;)
- 1660 Francis Lascelles,\* esq ;  
Thomas Lascelles, esq ;
- 1660 George Smithson, esq ;  
James Danby, esq ;
- 1678 Sir Gilbert Gerrard, bart.  
Sir Henry Calverly, knt.
- 1681 The same members.
- 1685 Sir David Foulis, bart.  
Sir Henry Marwood, bart.

that the latter is composed of the burgage houses only ; while the former includes both those and all the rest ; so that they are by no means synonymous terms.

\* Francis Lascelles, esq ; was one of the members for the county of York, in Oliver Cromwell's little parliament, *Anno 1653* ; and also one of the members for the North-riding in that which met Sep. 3, 1654, and in another which begun Sept. 1656. It does not appear that he was a member of the long parliament ; but, having sat three times as one of the judges at the late king's trial, he was, on the 9th of June, 1660, discharged from being a member of the House of Commons, and declared "incapable of bearing any office, or place of public trust in this kingdom."

JOURNALS.

- 1688 William Robinson, esq ;  
Thomas Lascelles, esq ;
- 1690 Sir William Robinson, knt.  
Thomas Lascelles, esq ;
- 1695 Sir William Hustler, knt.  
Thomas Lascelles, esq ;
- 1698 Sir William Hustler, knt.  
Ralph Milbanke, esq ;
- 1701 Sir William Hustler, knt.  
Daniel Lascelles, esq ;
- 1702 Sir William Hustler, knt.  
Robert Dormer, esq ;
- 1702 Robert Dormer, esq ;  
John Aislaby, esq ;
- 1705 Sir William Hustler, knt.  
Robert Dormer, esq ;  
*and in his stead, making his Election for the county of Bucks,*  
Roger Gale,\* esq ;

\* Thomas Harrison, esq ; petitioned against the return of  
Mr Gale, on the ground of "bribery and other corrupt practices."  
COMMONS JOURNAL.

- 1708 Sir William Hustler, knt.  
Roger Gale, esq ;
- 1710 Roger Gale, esq ;  
Robert Raikes, esq ;
- 1713 Henry Peirse, esq ;  
Leonard Smelt, esq ;
- 1714 Cholmley Turner, esq ;  
Leonard Smelt, esq ;
- 1722 Henry Peirse, esq ;  
Leonard Smelt, esq ;
- 1727 The same members.
- 1734 Henry Peirse, esq ;  
William Smelt, esq ;
- 1747 Henry Peirse, esq ;  
Henry Lascelles, esq ;
- 1754 Edward Lascelles, esq ;  
Daniel Lascelles, esq ;
- 1761 The same members
- 1768 Daniel Lascelles, esq ;  
Edward Lascelles, esq ;

- 1775 Daniel Lascelles, esq ;  
Henry Peirse, esq ;
- 1780 Henry Peirse, esq ;  
Edwin Lascelles, esq ;
- 1784 The same members.
- 1790 Henry Peirse, esq ;  
Edward Lascelles, esq ;

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C H A P. VI.

*Of the Market and Fairs.*

ON Wednesday in every week is a plentiful market for corn and other provisions ; and formerly there was, from Christmas to St. George's day, what is called a fortnight-day, every other Wednesday, on which was a great market for all sorts of live cattle. There are also four annual fairs, to which there is great resort, viz. on Candlemas day, St. George's, St. Bartholomew's, and St. Matthew's day, for all manner of cattle and horses ; and likewise a fair for

cheeses on the second Wednesday in October. Leland says that the fairs were granted by King John to Phillip *Pictaviensis*, bishop of Durham, anno 1200, which must be understood of those on Candlemas and St. Bartholomew's day, the only fairs in being when he lived ; for that on St. George's day, to commence upon the eve of this festival, and continue the day after it, with a fortnight-day every other Wednesday till Lammas, for buying and selling all sorts of cattle, was granted to Cuthbert Tunstall, bishop of Durham, by Phillip and Mary ; and that on St. Matthew's day, for the like time and purpose, with a fortnight-day from Lammas till Christmas, to William James, bishop of Durham, by king James the first\*. Barnaby Harrington, commonly called Drunken Barnaby, was no stranger to these fairs, which seem to have afforded him equal satisfaction both as a good fellow and a thrifty dealer ; for thus he sings :

\* Gale's Historical Account.

*Veni Alerton, ubi oves,  
Tauri, vaccæ, vituli, bœves,  
Aliaque campi pecora,  
Oppidana erant decora :  
Forum fuit jumentorum,  
Mibi autem cella forum.*

Thence to *Alerton*, rank't in battel,  
Sheep, kine, oxen, other cattel ;  
As I fortun'd to paſs by there,  
Were the town's best beautifier :  
Fair for beasts at that time fell there,  
But I made my fare the cellar.

*Veni Alerton, hætam, latam,  
Mercatori perquam gratam,  
In utiliorem dictum,  
Eligo locum pecori aptum.*

Thence to *Alerton* chearful, fruitful,  
To the seller very grateful :  
There to chuse a place, I'm chariest,  
Where my beasts may shew the fairest\*.

\* Barnaby's Journal, part III. and IV.

## C H A P. V.H.

*Of the Church, and other Religious Charitable Foundations.*

THE Church, dedicated to All Saints, is a large handsome edifice, built in the form of a cross, the western end or nave consisting of three aisles, and the whole formerly covered with lead. The chancel, being looked upon as dangerous, was, in 1779, pulled down and rebuilt, and roofed with slate; and in 1786, the roof on the western end was taken down and a new one, though much inferior to the former in the beauty of its construction, erected and covered with the same materials as the chancel. These alterations have considerably affected the beauty and uniformity of the whole building. The pews in the body of the church being found to be in a very ruinous state, were, in 1787, pulled down and rebuilt with oak, which has rendered it much more comfortable and commodious than formerly. It stands in a spacious church-yard, with a wide area about it, at

a good distance from the houses on every side, more than half way up the street from the south end, and was probably rebuilt soon after its destruction by the Scots, in the time of king Edward II\*. The steeple is a square tower rising from the middle of the church, with four pinnacles upon it; has five bells, and a good clock, which latter was given by the members of parliament for the borough in 1714§. On these bells are the following inscriptions:

- 1st. *Jesus be our speed.* 1656.
- 2d. *Glory be to God on bee.* 1656.
- 3d. *God save His Church.* 1656.
- 4th. *In multis annis resonet campana Jobannis.*
- 5th. *God save His Church.* 1692.

That on the fourth bell is in the ancient church text, and between the beginning and end are three coats of arms, but too much incrusted over to be made out. This bell, which is remarkable for the superior sweet-

\* Gale's Historical Account.      § Ibid.

ness of its tone, is said to have belonged to the priory of Mount-Grace\*. There are a few modern monuments of the dead in the church, but none of them remarkable for any thing extraordinary. The oldest is a tomb of free-stone, which, till lately, was at the west end of the north aisle, but on repairing the church in 1787, was taken up and laid at the east end of the south aisle: It has this epitaph upon it :

*Hic jacet in hoc tumulo Marcus Metcalf, filius Lucæ Metcalf de Bedale, frater quoque et bæres Nicholai Metcalf armigeri, unius sex cleri-*

\* Thomas de Holland, duke of Surrey, founded this priory, some part of which is still standing, for monks of the carthusian order, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, and St. Nicholas, about the year 1396; and not only endowed it with his own manor of Bordelby, but obtained of king Richard II. the lands and possessions of three alien priories for it; but dying shortly after in arms against king Henry IV. before all the buildings were finished, the work was at a stand, and the right of the monks to their possessions questioned, till king Henry VI. about the year 1440, confirmed in parliament all the duke's grants to them. After this the buildings were soon completed, and the monastery flourished till the general dissolution, about which time the revenues of it were valued at 382l. 5s. 11d. per annum in the whole, and 323l. 2s. 10d. clearly. The site was granted (32d, Henry VIII.) to James Strangwaike,

*corum eximiae curiae cancellarie defuncti. Qui quidem Marcus vicarius fuit matricis ecclesiae Omnit Sanctorum de Northallerton, incumbens ibidem xxxii annos. Vixit LIV. ann. tandem sepultus xxiv die mensis maii, anno Domini 1593.*

There seems to have been nothing remarkable in the church when Leland was here, though he only says that he found "no tumes of noblemen" in it. The following persons appear to have been interred in the chancel pursuant to their last wills :

James Bowes, gent. of Northallerton, in 1613.  
John Bowes, gent. of the same place, in 1614.  
John Constable, esq; of Lafenby, in 1619.  
Richard Danby, gent. of Romanby, in, or  
soon after, 1651\*.

In the year 1585 there were in one of the windows two armorial shields or coats bearing on the dexter side, *sable*, three greyhounds current *argent*, being the arms of Mauleverer. These were impaled in one of the shields, which had a label of three points,

\* Burton's MSS.

or, with the arms of Courtney; being, or, three torteauxes, above a fesse gules; and in the other with a coat *argent*, upon a chevron, three martlets; colours and owner unknown\*. A helmet, with a grey-hound, Mauleverer's crest, supported by a headless lance, fixed in the north wall of the old chancel, remained till it was taken down in 1779.

The vicarage, which is in charge, was formerly appropriated to the prior and convent of Durham, who had a pension of 20l. out of the fruits thereof§; and is still in the gift of the dean and chapter of that church. The impropriator, or proprietor of the rectory or great tithes is Henry Peirse, esq.; one of the present members for the borough, by purchase from the heirs of Edmund Priflick, esq.; of Carlton in Cleveland, the son and heir of George Priflick, esq.; of the same place; whose elder brother, William, having purchased this rectory of the earl of Ailesbury,

\* Glover's Visitation.

§ Burton's MSS.

in whose family it had been long vested, sold it to Mrs. Elizabeth Raine of Northallerton, and she, or her representatives, to the above Mr George Prifstick. It is held of the crown\*. The following is a correct list of the vicars of this church, from the most remote period to which they can be traced, with the date of their respective institutions.

- 12.. Gilbert .....
- 1267 John de Derlington
- 1302 Peter de Killawe
- 1311 Peter de Fishburn
- 1323 Alan de Chiredon, S. T. P.
- .... Richard Afkeby
- 1332 Edmund Cruer
- 1335 Robert Dighton
- 13.. John de Haytor
- 1382 John de Gilling
- 1393 William Kamell
- 1396 Robert Redmereshill
- 1403 John Staynfield
- 14.. John Corbridge

\* Gale's Historical Account.

- 1421 William Barker.  
1422 William Middilton.  
1437 John Thorneton.  
1455 John Treyndon.  
1465 Robert Walker.  
1471 Bartholomew Radclyff.  
1474 Richard Rolleston, A. B.  
1475 William Halyman.  
1491 John Fisher\*.  
1494 Robert Clay.  
1522 Leonard Hutchenson.  
1533 Robert Askew.  
1547 Lancelot Thornton.  
1561 Marcus Metcalf.  
1593 Francis Kaye, A. M.  
1624 John Craddock, S. T. P.  
1628 Thomas Blaikston, A. M.  
1640 Thomas Man§.

\* Afterwards *Bishop of Rochester*, beheaded on Towerhill, 1535.

§ This *Man* possessed himself of the living during the Interregnum. Coming into the church as Mr. Blaikston, was reading one of the Lessons, and producing an instrument, by which he claimed the living under the then usurpation, he first turned Mr. Blaikston out of the reading-desk, and then getting up into the pulpit, made there a long prayer and a longer sermon.

Walker's Sufferings of the Clergy.

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- 1669 John Neyle, S. T. P.  
 1675 Willian Neyle, A. M.  
 1686 John Harper.  
 1694 Charles Neile, A. M.  
 1718 Christopher Hunter, A..M.  
 1725 Thomas Rudd, A. M.  
 1729 John Balguy, A. M\*.  
 1748 Robert Pigot, A. M.  
 1775 Benjamin Walker, A. M§.

The Vicar had a pension out of the tithes of Lascenby†. where was formerly a Chantry founded by John Lyshgraves and Alice his wife, valued at 9l. 6s. 8d‡. Richard Woodall and John Wylde, the two last chantry priests, had annuities assigned them of 4l. 4s. each||.

There was formerly in this church a Chantry of St. Laurence, founded by one of the bi-

\* Author of two volumes of Sermons in great esteem.

§ Burton's MSS. N. B. All or most of the incumbents prior to the Reformation, were distinguished by the titles of *Dominus*, or *Magister*, or the additions of *Diakonus*, *Presbyter*, or *Cappellanus*.

† Regist. Honor. de Richmond. ‡ Burton's MSS. || Willis.

shops of Durham, (probably Laurence Booth,) and valued at the dissolution (37th. Henry VIII.) at 4l. 3s. 4d. Henry Gamel, the last incumbent, had an annuity of 3l. 15s. assigned him, which he enjoyed in 1553\*.

Here was also a Gild or Fraternity, to which on the 9th. of June 1441, an indulgence was granted by the archbishop of York of 100 days relaxation of penance, to all such as liberally contributed to the honour and conversation of the said gild, or resorted thereto, on account of the devotion of those saints in whose honour and memory it was celebrated§.

William de Alverton gave the Austin Friars eight acres of ground in this town, to build them a church and habitation thereon, in the 14th. year of King Edward III†.

In the year 1476, Richard de Moore, draper of Northallerton, founded an hospital call-

\* Burton's MSS. Gale's Historical Account. Willis.

§ Burton's MSS. Willis. Rymer. † Tanner.

ed *Maison Dieu*, or the House of God, for thirteen poor people, men or women ; though it now only maintains four. There were many houses and much land formerly belonged to this charity, which are now lost. At present it only enjoys two fields called *Maison Dieu*, and *Castle-bill Closes*, which are worth about 25l. per annum ; of which the poor receive no more than 40s. yearly each. Some have said that this hospital was founded by sir James Strangways ; but he and his son appear to have been no more than trustees to see it kept in repair, and the pensions duly paid to the poor. The persons to be maintained in the house were obliged, by the founder, every morning and evening, at six o'clock precisely, to repeat fifteen *Pater-Nosters*, and as many *Ave Marias*, and the three *Creeds*, in honour of their Lord's passion ; as also to pray for the soul of Richard de Moore, their founder, Michael de Longbain, and others their benefactors. They had, at first, allowed them twenty shillings a year to buy sea coals, and were to find two beds

for destitute and distressed travellers; which allowance was, in the 20th. year of Henry VIII. increased to 1l. 6s. 6d. The town nominates the poor persons to it, though this was done formerly by the earl of Carlisle, as a descendant of Leonard, son of lord Dacres of Gilfland, who married the heiress of the Strangways family\*. The house, which stands about the middle of the east row, has been lately rebuilt at the expence of the town.

On the east side of the town, stood a house of Carmelites or White Friars, founded by Thomas Hatfield, bishop of Durham, or, according to some, by King Edward III. or to others, both jointly, about the year 1354, and dedicated to St. Mary. It was surrendered on the 20th. of November 1539, by William Wommefraye, warden, and nine bretheren§. The site was granted (7th of Edw. VI.) to Richard Vavasour of Birkin, and Henry Vavasour of London, from whom, through various possessors, it at length came to the

\* Tanner. Gale's Historical Account. § Ibid.

late Robert Raikes Fulthorp, esq; who sold it to William Wailes, esq; It still retains the name of the *Freerage*, and the terrace, and some foundations of the out walls are still discernible. Walter Hellaw, superior of this convent, died and was buried therein, anno 1367, being probably the first prior\*. Leeland had heard that one of the earls of Westmoreland was likewise buried there.

Near this Town, that is, about a mile on the road to York, was an hospital dedicated to St. James, founded as it is said, by Hugh Pudsey, bishop of Durham, or rather it should seem, by Philip of Poictou, his successor, in the reign of King Richard I. to which the churches of Thornton-le-street and North-Otterington were appropriated: It was also endowed with the town of Ellerbeck and the mill, half a plough-land at Romanby, and eight oxgangs at Otterington; and, when suppressed, was valued at 56l. a year§. About the

\* Gale's Historical Account.      § Ibid. Regist. Honor. de Richmond.

time of the dissolution here were a master, three chaplains, four bretheren, two sisters, and nine poor persons. Richard Morysine the last master, surrendered this house the 9th of May, 1541. The site was granted in the same year to Thomas Barton of Whenby ; but being afterwards exchanged for other lands, it became part of the endowment of Christ-church in Oxford\*. It still retains the name of *Spital*, which is a contraction of *Hospital*.

There was a grammar and singing School here in 1327, when the Prior of Durham presented John Podesay to be master of it ; as he did William de Ledes in 1385§. The pre-

\* Tanner, p. 677. Burton's MSS.

§ Robertus Prior Ecclesiae Cathedralis Dunelmensis Ordinarius Spiritualitatis Sancti Cuthberti in dioceſi Ebor. dilecto nobis in Christo Domino Wilielmo de Ledis Capellano, salutem in amplexibus salvatoris. Te ad informandos pueros tam in canto quam in grammatica ex laudabili testimonio fide dignorum sufficientem et ydoneum reputantes, scholas nostras de Allerton tam cantuales quam grammaticales, prout hactenus conferri consueverunt, tibi conferimus per praesentes, monitu charitatis, habendas et regendas, a dat. praesentium usque ad terminum trium annorum proxime sequentium, dummodo te bene et honeste habueris, et circa pueros informandos personaliter diligentiam adhibueris efficacem. In cuius rei testimonium, sigillum nostrum praesentibus est appensum. Dat. xv die mens. Decemb. ac Domini 1385. Ex libro presentationum et literarum Prioris et Conventus Eccl. Dunelm. in biblio Cotton.

sent grammar school, to which the dean and chapter of that church nominate a master, is undoubtedly the same. It seems, however, to be of royal foundation, which is only 5l. 1s 8d. per annum, and is paid by the king's collectors, who deduct 5s. for poundage, 2s. 6d. for debenture money, and 8d. for acquittance. The borough houses, paying king's rent, appear to have been formerly chargeable with this salary. There is a further endowment of a house, a garden, and a small close, worth about 10l. a year; and the lands of John Eshall are, likewise, subjected by his will to the payment of 20s. a year, for teaching four poor boys. The house being an antient burgage gives the master a vote for the two members of parliament, which ought to be valued at something. Bishop Cosins founded some scholarships at Peter-house in Cambridge of 10l. a year each, and gave such scholars as should be educated in this school a right to them, immediately after those of Durham school. Though the school has been of no very great reputation of late years, the six following eminent men

were all educated in it, while Mr. Thomas Smelt was master:

Dr. William Palliser, archbishop of Cashel in Ireland, born at Kirby-Wisk;

Dr. George Hickes, dean of Worcester, born at the same place;

Dr. John Ratcliffe, the famous physician;

Mr. John Kettlewell, born at Brompton;

Mr. Thomas Rymer, editor of the *Fædera*, &c.

Dr. Thomas Burnet, master of the Charter-house in London\*.

Edmund Guest, bishop of Salisbury, and almoner to queen Elizabeth, was born in this town, but it does not appear that he was educated in this school.

The school was rebuilt by subscription in 1777, and the house adjoining to it was, in 1785, built at the sole expence of the present master, the Rev. James Wilkinson.

There are three Chapels of ease in this

\* Gale's Historical Account. Registrum Honoris de Richmond.

parish, at Brompton, Deighton, and Worsall; and formerly there were two more, at Romanby and Lazenby; both long since disused. The remains of the latter were, in Mr. Gale's time, turned into a stable \*; where the former stood is not now discernible.

John Eshall left by will, bearing date July 28, 1612, 40s. a year to the poor of Northallerton, payable out of lands at *Catto*, now the property of T. Kilvington, M. D.

The Rev. Francis Kay, formerly vicar of this Church, left by will, June 21, 1624, to two poor widows of this place 5l. a year, payable out of the Lands of *Sturmy-ball* and *Nook-house*, in Danby-forest, Cleveland.

The Rev. John Kettlewell of the parish of St. Andrew, Holborn, London, by a deed bearing date March 9, 1694, vested in a farm, called *Low-moor-farm*, in the township of Brompton, within the parish of Northallerton, certain trustees, therein named, for the use

\* Gale's Historical Account.

of the poor of the two townships of Northallerton and Brompton for ever. The farm now lets for 44l. per annum.

Elizabeth Rayne of this place, settled, by a deed dated Oct. 15, 1737, on certain trustees therein named, two closes in Romanby, called *Yarn Acres*, containing about 11 acres, for the use of the poor of Northallerton and Romanby.

There is also distributed annually by the vicar to the inhabitants of Northallerton, Brompton, and Romanby, a donation of 10l. left by Lady Calverley, and paid out of the estate of Beilby Thompson, esq; of Esrick, near York.

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## C H A P. VIII.

### *Of the Shire.*

THE Shire, soke, liberty, or wapontake of Allerton is about 10 miles long and 5 broad, in the broadest part; and is bounded  
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by the wapontakes of Hang East and Gilling East on the west; by the river Tees on the north; and by the wapontakes of Langbargh and Birdforth on the east and south. It appears to have been much more extensive at the time of making Domesday-book, comprehending not only the whole of its present territory, but all the country between Wisk and Swale\*, which the conqueror added to the earldom of Richmond, and now makes a part of the wapontake of Gilling East; and also several other towns, which at present are in the wapontake of Birdforth, and consequently must have been taken from it §.

It contains, at present, the following towns, villages, or hamlets: Allerton (North), Appleton, Birkby, Brawith, Brompton, Borrowby, Crosby Coat, Deighton, Dinsdale, Ellerbeck, Girsby, Hallikeld, Harlsey (West), Hornby, Hutton Bonville, Landmoth, Lassenby, Leek, Lovesome-hill, Otterington (North), Romanby, Rounton (West), Sigtoun, Smeaton (Little), Stank, Thorn-

\* See before, p. 13.

§ Gale's Historical Account.

ton-le-beans, Thornton-le-street, Welbury, Winton, and Worsall (High). Of these eleven are parishes or parochial chapelries : Allerton V. Birkby, R. Brompton, Deighton, C.C. to Allerton, Hutton-Bonville, C. to Birkby, Leek, V. Otterington, V. Rounstan, R. Sigston, R. Thornton-le-street, V. and Worsall, C. to Allerton.

The land is, for the most part, held of the bishop of Durham, and the whole shire subject to the spiritual jurisdiction of that church. At Harlsey are the ruins of "a praty castelle, buildid" as Leland says, " by Strangwaile the judge," in Henry the fourth's time. There was also formerly a Castle at Sigston, but no part of it now remains. The Gentlemen "of most name" here, in Leland's time, were "Malory [at ]"; Coniers at [ ]; Vincent in Smithon Paroch, a little beyond Smithon bridge; Thwaites, whose house" he "saw on the lift hond, a little a this side Smithon bridge": all which families are now extinct. There

was very little wood in the shire at that period, and but one park, at Hutton, then without deer. The country, he observed, bore good corn, "yet a great peace of the ground that" he "saw at hand bytwixt North-alverton and Smithon bridge" was "low pasture and mores, wheroft part" bore "sum fyrres." It is now well cultivated, producing all kinds of grain in great plenty.

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## C H A P. IX.

*Of Historical or Local Events.*

**I**N the year 865 here was a sharp conflict between king Elfrid and his brother Alfred and five Danish kings, and the like number of Danish earls, who had invaded the kingdom with a great host, and in a second battle were all slain\*.

In the year 1069 Robert Cumin, whom the Conqueror had made earl or governor of Northumberland (which county had

\* P. Langtoft, translated by Rob. of Brunne. i. p. 21.

opposed his government ever since his accession with great zeal) was, with all his attendants, slain at Durham, by the Northumbrians, who were exasperated and driven to despair by the horrid cruelties he threatened to commit, of which he had already given a very ample specimen. The king, highly incensed at the news, immediately dispatched a formidable army into the north, to take the severest revenge for the earl's death, on all ranks of persons between the Tees and the Tweed. But when this army had reached *Alverton*, and was within a day's march of the scene on which this bloody tragedy was to be performed, so great a darkness arose that one man could scarcely perceive his fellow, nor were they able, by any means, to discover which way they were to go. While they thus remained in a state of astonishment and suspense, there was one present who observed that the people of the city, to which they were going, had a certain Saint who was always their protector in adversity, so that none might

offer them the smallest injury without meeting a severe punishment. This observation being diffused through the army, which had too much of either piety or prudence to think of waging war with heaven, they very composedly returned to the place from whence they came. However the king not having the fear of God or St. Cuthbert before his eyes, came down in person, and laid waste the country on all sides; and as even this greatest of saints could not always be working miracles, the bishop and monks of Durham conveyed his incorruptible body with all speed to Holy Island\*.

Such havock, it is said, was made in this devastation, that between York and Durham, there was not a village inhabited; the ground for about sixty miles in length remained untilled for nine years; the country was a perfect desert, and served only for dens of beasts and a receptacle for robbers. All forts

\* Sym. Dunelm. C. 50.

of wholesome or usual food being destroyed, there ensued such a dreadful famine that a hundred thousand persons, of all ages and both sexes, perished with hunger: Multitudes lay on the ground unburied; and for near two years the few survivors were forced to eat dogs, cats, and horses, and even human flesh to keep them from starving\*. These cruelties were so monstrous as to make the tyrant exclaim with horror on his death-bed, *Multis gravibusq; peccatis onustus, contremisco, et mox ad tremendum Dei judicium rapiens, quid faciam ignoro;* and so goes on lamenting his sins, *Nobiles et vulgares crudeliter vexavi, injuste multos exhaereditavi, innumeros, maxime in pago Eboracensi, fame seu ferro mortificavī§.* There can be no doubt that the town and district of Northallerton were upon this occasion depopulated or destroyed; and accordingly, Domesday-book, compiled a few years after, says “*modo wastum est.*”

\* Carte, i. 409.

§ Thoresby, pref. XI.

On the death of the conqueror in the year 1087, his son William Rufus, out of gratitude for the friendship and fidelity which both he and his father had experienced from William de *Sancto Karileppo*, or *Carileph*, bishop of Durham, gave to the said bishop and his successors, the manor of Alverton with all its rights and appendages, except what Alan earl of Richmond had in his Castellary on the other side of the Wilse\*. But court favor being in those days of very short duration, he was soon after banished the realm and remained in exile three years before the king would be reconciled to him§. King Henry I. at his coronation, seized this Manor, with others, into his own hands; but soon afterwards restored the same to the bishop.

On the 22, of August, 1138, being the 3d year of king Stephen, on a plain about three miles to the north of this place, called after

\* Sym. Dunelm. c. 67. Chron. Dunelm. Bib. Cot. Regist. Honor. de Richmond, Ap. No. 125.

§ Symion Dunelm. c. 67.

a neighbouring village, *Cowton-moor\**, was fought a bloody battle between the Scots §, under the command of their king David, who had proceeded thus far in his invasion of the kingdom, exercising great cruelties in his march, and making horrid desolation all round the country, and the English, or rather the inhabitants of Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, and Derbyshire, commanded by Thurstan, archbishop of York, who, however, was left sick at Thirsk, Ralph Nowell, bishop of Orkney his suffragan, William earl of Albemarle, Walter de Grant, Robert de Brus, Roger de Mowbray, Walter Espec, Richard de Curey, William Fossard, Robert de Stutevill, Ilbert Lacy, Geoffrey Halsoline, William Peverell, and Robert de Ferrers, all powerful northern barons. This has ever since been called the Battle of the Standard, from a long pole or mast of a ship being erected upon a sort of

\* Leland's Itin. i. 59. John of Hexham says, that from the sacks and wallets left by the enemy it was called *Boggamoor*.

§ Richard of Hexham calls the Scottish army *Nefandus exercitus de Normannis Germanis, Anglis de Northymbranis, et Cumbris, de Tewetadala, et Lodonea, de Pictis qui vulgo Galweieenses dicuntur et Scottis.*

chariot or carriage, having on the top of it a silver crucifix, under which were suspended the banners of Saint Peter, St. John of Beverley, and St. Wilfred of Ripon, and, above all, in a silver box, was the consecrated wafer, or supposed body of Jesus Christ\*. The English, drawn up in one body of men about this standard, with the most experienced of their troops, expected the attack of the enemy; who, holding a council of war about the manner of beginning the engagement, disagreed in their sentiments. The Galloway men, descended of the ancient Picts, claimed it as their right to be in the van, and make the first onset. And though king David did not care to gratify them, yet, to avoid the ill consequences of a

\* R. Hagul. J. Hagul. X Script. A rude drawing is preserved of this machine in *Ailredi Rievallenfis Historia de bello Standardi*, in the same collection. This writer was Abbot of Rivaux about that time, and has left a particular account of the engagement, describing the characters of the leaders, and giving many of their harangues at length. Hugh de Sotevagina Archdeacon of York at that time, wrote the following distich upon it:

*Dicitur a flando standardum, quod stetit illic,  
Militiae probitas vincere five mori.*

Standard from stand, this fight we aptly call,  
Our men here stood to conquer or to fall.

quarrel, hastily gave orders for them to form the first battalia, and begin the engagement. The second was commanded by his son Henry, a beautiful, gallant, amiable, and deserving prince, who had under him a good body of knights and archers, with the Cumbrian and Tweedale militia ; and was assisted by Eustace Fitz John, a great English nobleman, lord of Alnwick and Malton. The third body was composed of Scotch highlanders, and the forces of Lothian and Murray ; the king himself being at their head with a party of English and Norman knights, for the guard of his person. The Galloway corps began the charge with such fury that the English lancers at first gave ground ; but being sustained by the firmness of the rest of their body, and deriving great advantages from their armour in close engagement, whilst the enemy, continually galled by the archers, could scarce see where to direct their blows ; the Galloway men, having lost their two commanders, Ulgrick and Donald, were broke, and fled in great confusion. The prince of Scotland, piercing thro'

the part of the English army which was opposed to him, and passing beyond the Standard fell upon a party of cavalry posted behind the main body, with horses of dismounted cavalry; and drove them beyond him the space of two furlongs, supposing that he was followed by the rest of his forces. The English, terrified with the impetuosity of the prince's attack, were on the point of quitting the field, when they were stopped by the stratagem of an artful and experienced warrior; who cutting off the head of a man that was slain, held it up on high with his lance, crying out, it was the head of the king of Scotland; which brought them on to renew the battle with greater vigour than before. The Scots, discouraged by the flight of the Galloway men, and by the rumour of the king's death, fled on all sides; so that few were left about king David, who had hitherto fought on foot, but was now forced by his guard of knights to mount on horseback and retreat, which he did in good order. Those that fled, seeing the royal banner, on which a dragon

was painted, waving in the air, concluded immediately that the king was not dead; and rallying, joined his corps in such numbers, as to render it terrible to the pursuers. Some of these being taken, the rest kept at a distance; and suffered him to retire unmolested to Carlisle; where he was two days in great pain for his son, of whom he could hear no tidings. The prince finding himself with a few of his followers in the midst of the English troops, made them throw away their marks of distinction; and mixing with the enemy, as if a part of their body, found means at last to get from them; and after encountering many difficulties, got at length to Carlisle, the third day after his father's arrival. The Scots did not lose any great number of men in the field; but some thousands of those who fled dispersedly were slain in different counties, through which they endeavoured to make their way into Scotland. Stephen was much elated at the news of this victory; and to reward William earl of Albemarle, who seems to have commanded in chief, and Robert de Ferrers who

had brought a good body of men to his assistance, created the former earl of Yorkshire, and the latter earl of Derbyshire\*. The total loss of the Scots in and after the battle is computed at about ten or eleven thousand men ; whereas that of the English was perfectly trifling ; a brother of Ilbert Lacy being the only knight slain§. In this battle, says Lambarde, “After that the bishop of Durham [Orkney] had exhorted the souldiours to fighte, the Scottes cryed out *albany albany*†, after their maner as thoughe al had bene theires. But Thenglishe souldiours sent amongst theim such hayle of shott, that after a whyle they turned their backes, and in fine, theare was slayne of theim to the numbre of 11,000, and they weare for their brag of *albany*, mocked with *yyr, yyr* standard, a terme of great reproache in their speache at that time, as Matthew Paris witnesseth”‡. The scene of action

\* Carte, i. 531.      § R. Hugul, W. Hemingford.

† By *Albani* the Scots meant themselves ; *Alban* being a very ancient name of Scotland; and the highlanders calling themselves *Albannick* to this day.

‡ H. Huntington and others mention the Scottish cry of *Albani*, but as no such matter is to be found in Matthew Paris, Mr. Lambarde must have mistaken his authority.

is still distinguished by the name of *Standard-bill*, as the holes into which the dead Scots were thrown are by that of the *Scot-pits*.

In the 12th year of Henry II. the soke of *Alvertun* was amerced ten marks for putting a man to the judgment of water, without the knowledge or presence of the king's servant\*.

In the 12th year of king Edward II. 1318, the town was plundered and burnt by the Scots, in an inroad which they made under the command of sir James Douglas and Thomas Randolph, to the very gates of York: And, in the following year, the king issued a mandate to the collectors of his taxes, for exempting it and several others from payment thereof, in consideration that they had been ruined by those his enemies and rebels§. On the 29th of

\* Madox's History of the Exchequer, p. 386.

§ Gale's Historical Account. Regist. Honor. de Richmond, p. 156. Maitland's History of Scotland, i. 491. Blind Harry, in his "Actie and Deidis of the Illuster and Vailzeand Champicun Shyr Wilham Wallace Knycht of Elrisle," written about the year 1460,

January, 1673, the town presented a petition to the house of Commons relative to the amending and maintaining the highways; which was referred to a committee\*.

At the general Quarter Sessions of the peace for the north riding, held at Northallerton, by adjournment, the 17th of July, 1688, the justices there assembled addressed king James, to express their joy and gratitude "for the

says that he here fought a bloody battle with "Schyr Rawff Rymut, captayne of Maltoun," and after lying some time in expectation of a visit from king Edward I. burnt the town.

"Wallace trauounty on the secund day,  
 "Fra Zork thai passit rycht in gud aray;  
 "North-west thai past in battaill buskyt boun,  
 "Thar lugeyng tuk besyd *Northballyrtoun.*"

---

"Than Wallace maid full mony byggyng hayt;  
 "Thai rassyt fyr, brynt up *Northballartoun,*  
 "Agayne throuch Zork-schyre bauldly maid thaim boun,  
 "Dystroyed the land, as fer as evir thai ryde,  
 "Sewyn myle about thai brynt on athir syde."

But whatever truths may be related in that work, as this part of it is evidently unfounded and romantic, it requires no further notice.

\* Commons Journals.

great blessing God Almighty had bestowed on his sacred majesty and the kingdom, by the happy birth of his royal highness the prince of Wales." They not only congratulate with him, as they say, for this blessing, but pray and wish for his long life and health; and the increase of his royal family; that after ages might know and enjoy an equality of that peace and plenty; in which they, though his wise and just government, (to the envy of their neighbours,) then flourished\*. A few months after the presenting of this loyal address, their all perfect sovereign, with his queen and infant son, was compelled to desert his throne and kingdom; when, no doubt, they welcomed his successor with a profusion of compliments, equally fulsome, contemptible and unmeaning.

On the 15th of February, 1697, a petition of "the ancient borough of Northallerton" was presented to the House of Commons against a

\* Gazette.

bill, then depending, for making navigable the rivers Ayre and Calder; which was referred to a Committee §.

On the 7th of March, 1698, a Petition of the Shoemakers in and about this borough was presented to the house and read, setting forth that some attempts had been made to export tanned Leather, which, if permitted, would impoverish and ruin the petitioners, and especially the dealers in thin work, there being persons buying up great quantities of calves skins to send beyond sea, so that the petitioners would not be able to furnish themselves at any rates to carry on their trades, which by the duty on leather was brought so low; that they could scarce live; and praying that the exportation of tanned leather might be stopped effectually: Which petition was ordered to lye on the table\*.

On the 16th of January, 1718, a petition of

§ Commons Journal.

\* Ibid.

the Skinners of this borough was also presented and read ; setting forth, that great abuses were committed by butchers and others in flaying sheep skins and lamb skins, by cutting holes therein and gashing and scoring the same, and otherwise ; by reason of which abuses such skins were rendered unfit for service, to the great prejudice of the public, and dealers therein ; and the revenues were avoided or lessened by the abuses aforesaid ; and praying that the said abuses might be redressed : which petition was also ordered to lye on the table §.

On the 5th of October, 1706, her majesty, queen Anne, was pleased to sign a warrant for creating the elector of Hanover ( afterwards king George I. ) a peer of England, by the stile and title of baron of Tewksbury, viscount North-Allerton, earl of Milford-Haven, marquis and duke of Cambridge, &c. with precedence of all the rest of the peers of Great Britain\*.

§ Commons Journals. \* Collin's Peerage.

In the rebellion 1745, the English army, under the command of the Duke of Cumberland, encamped at the Castle-hills, about a quarter of a mile west of this town.

A few years since, in a field about a quarter-of a mile north of the town, a large Urn, containing an innumerable quantity of small Roman coins, chiefly of the latter emperors, was dug up : The urn was of coarse blue clay, brittle and porous. Tradesmen's Tokens are also sometimes found here, whose different inscriptions and devices shew them to have been the particular coinage of individuals of this borough. It appears that from and during the reign of queen Elizabeth to that of king Charles the second, the tradesmen in general, that is, all who pleased, coined small money or tokens, for the benefit and convenience of trade. This being struck for necessary change, the figure and device were various, and the materials of lead, tin, copper, or brass. Every community or tradesman who issued this

useful kind of specie, were obliged to take it again when brought to them ; and therefore, in large towns, where many sorts of them were current, a tradesman kept a sorting box, into the partitions of which he put the money of the respective tradesman, and at proper times, when he had a large quantity of one person's money, he sent it to him, and got it changed into silver ; and in this manner they proceeded till the year 1672, when king Charles II. having struck a sufficient quantity of half-pence and farthings for the exigencies of commerce these practices of the tradesmen were no longer useful or necessary.

The Sunday school ( an institution better calculated to prevent the many evils that spring from ignorance and corruption than any thing that has hitherto been devised ) was begun in May, 1787, when upwards of 60 poor children were entered upon this truly laudable establishment.

The number of Inhabitants in Northaller-

ton, from an exact survey taken anno 1791, amounted to 1960. And to give the reader some idea of the growing popularity of this place, we shall insert the following table taken from the parish registers.

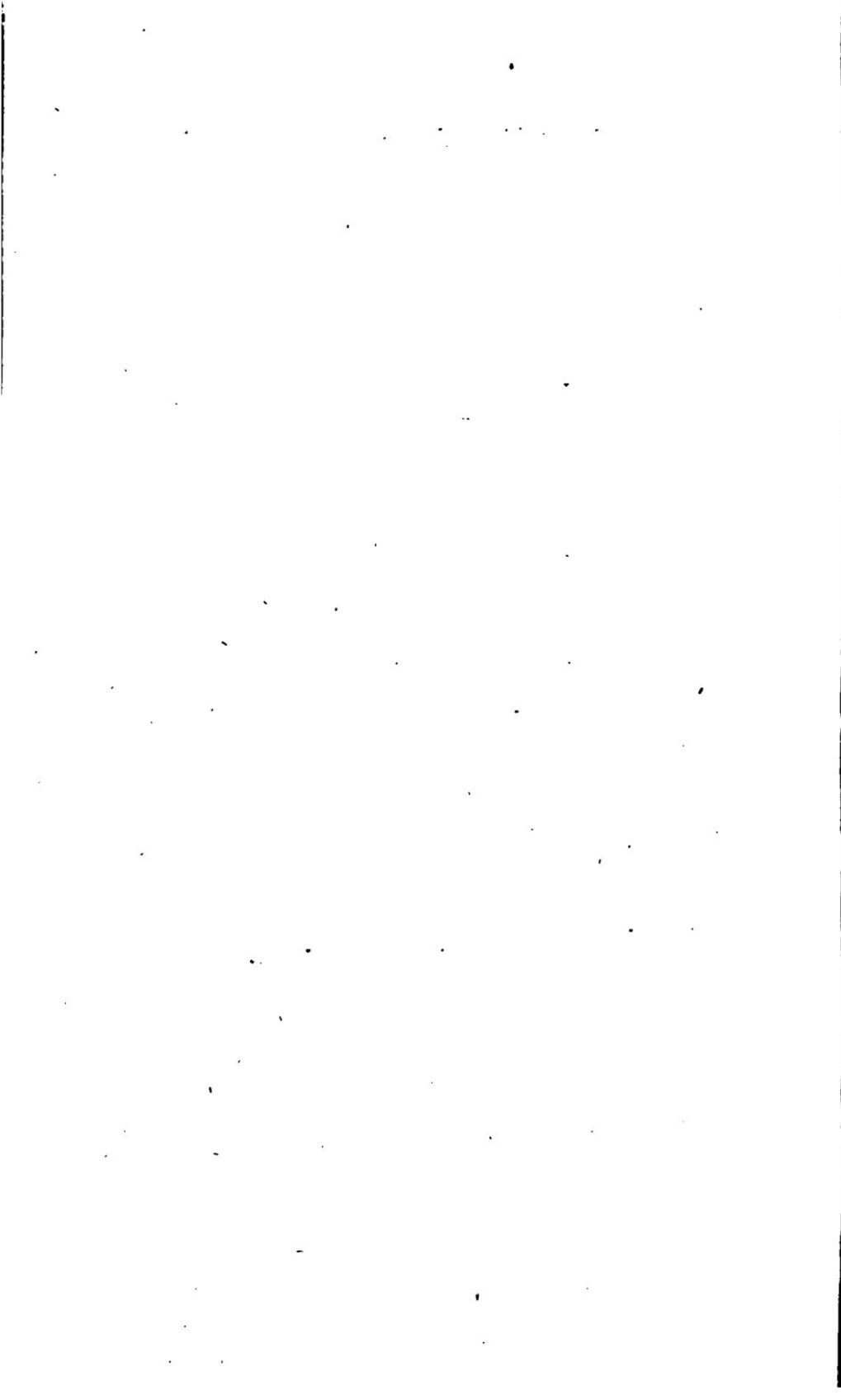
An account of the Births and Burials in Northallerton, from January 1, 1730, to January the 1, 1791.

YEARS.	BIRTHS.	BURIALS.
From 1730 to 1740	475	378
1740 to 1750	480	452
1750 to 1760	488	409
1760 to 1770	547	462
1770 to 1780	706	544
1780	81	40
1781	63	45
1782	79	40
1783	73	70
	2992.	2440.

YEARS.	BIRTHS.	BURIALS.
Brought forward	2992	2440
1784	76	74
1785	66	45
1786	65	33
1787	69	54
1788	73	48
1789	52	52
1790	78	51
	3471	2797

END OF THE HISTORY.

K



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A  
D E S C R I P T I O N  
O F T H E  
C A S T L E - H I L L S ,

N E A R  
N O R T H A L L E R T O N .

Written in the year 1746.

By Miss A. C R O S F I E L D .

Inscribed to Miss Lambton of *Biddick*.

---

Accept, dear nymph, the tribute of my  
lays,  
Fair patron of my muse, and of the theme,  
The theme, my native shades, the *Castle-hills*\*.  
From whose aspiring heights amaz'd I view  
Thy beauties, Albion! thy romantic scenes,  
Thy future navies, and thy fleecy wealth:  
Stretch'd in the amphitheatre below,

\* So called from the old Castle mentioned in the foregoing History, page 18.

Landscape on landscape strikes the dazzled eye,  
Floods, villas, golden acres, pastures fair,  
And nodding groves, in sweet confusion lie ;  
'Till faintly shining from yon distant hills,  
Thy silver spires *Eboracum* arise,  
And *Studley* just presents her magic charms ;  
In bolder colours *Richmond* lifts her head,  
And *Akse's* high tower, aspiring to the sky,  
While close behind, the western Alps advance,  
Proud that their beacons rous'd their sleepy  
sons,  
And blaz'd security about the isle.

Eastward I turn, and view thy awful heights,  
Stupendous *Hambleton* ! thy dreadful wilds,  
Thy gilded cliffs, and blue expanded side,  
At once infusing horror and delight :  
The hills beneath, comparatively low,  
Exalt their flowery tops to grace thy triumph ;  
'Till *Cotcliff* rising conscious of her charms,  
Lifts her embowering head, and nobly shews  
us,  
Merit can shine, though in the shade of great-  
ness.

Now laughing Ceres reassumes the plains,  
And meadows glow with variegated dyes.  
And now *Northallerton*, so fam'd of yore,  
Confusedly shews herself the sport of time.  
Alas ! how fallen, yon *old tower\** proclaims,  
Yon ruined tower, by *William's* bounty great,  
Once held the mitred barons of the north :  
Still round the town its ancient glories lye,  
Still *Brompton*, once the famous *Herbert's* seat,  
And *Romanby*, ennobled by its name,  
Shine its satellites in fainter brightness :  
Still the *old Frierage†* shews its bending walls,  
Its swelling terras, and encircling trench ;  
And northward stretch'd the *Scot-pit-fields* ap-  
pear,  
And *Standard-bill*, sad monuments of war ;  
'Twas there the pride of gallant *Scotland* fell,

\* The then remains of the old Episcopal Palace. See the History, page 18.

† Quere the person here meant ; only two of that name being known deserving such an epithet : Edward Lord Herbert of Cherbury, the Historian and Philosopher, and the Rev. George Herbert, author of "The Priest to the Temple" and other Poems.

‡ The remains of the old Monastery described before, p. 41.

And there the *warlike Prelate* calmly brave,  
Smil'd on superior strength, and greatly join'd,  
The golden mitre with the laurel wreath.

Fain would the muse digress and sing the  
man\*,

Who nobly fir'd by this divine example,  
Durst, ev'n in times degenerate as these,  
Appear the champion of his faith and country ;  
O ! wond'rous excellence ! unshaken zeal !

Whom power can't bias nor preferment  
change,

But stop, my muse—stop thy audacious flight !  
His virtues soar above the height of praise,  
And shall with primitive fulgence shine,  
When nature falls, and death itself shall die.

Now, lost in thought, I leave the dazzling  
height,

And seek retirement in the groves below ;  
Sweet shades ! where oft contemplating I rove,  
And mourn the gilded follies of the world ;

\* Doctor Thomas Herring, then Archbishop of York, and afterwards of Canterbury. He was remarkably zealous in preaching and haranguing against the rebels, and actually wore regimentals ; but it ought to be remembered that he had five or six thousand pounds a year at stake.

Sweet shades ! how shall I sing your peaceful charms !

Come, my *Maria*, thou shalt be my muse,  
Dear patron of the lovely scenes I paint,  
And in thy self far lovelier than them all :

Come, my *Maria*, bless me with thy goodness,  
Thy presence can inspire, when all the nine  
And bright *Apollo* tune the lyre in vain :

How oft, my friend, in these alluring shades,  
With fair *Eliza*\*, sister of thy merit,  
We spent whole hours ( too swiftly snatched  
away ! )

In social friendship's ever blooming charms ;  
O happy hours ! when three united hearts,  
With gen'rous ardor, plan'd each others peace,  
Sooth'd every care and check'd each rising  
weakness.

Come, my *Maria*, let us range the plain,  
And trace the winding of yon awful trench§,

\* Mrs. Greenhill.

§ These ditches and parapets about the Castle-Hills are unquestionably *Roman* works ; but we have no authority for believing that ever Petilius, the celebrated Roman general, encamped there.

Which in its circling arms did once contain  
The burnish'd conqueror of a yielding world ;  
Upon this plain the *Roman Eagle* wav'd,  
And here the great *Petilius* dreadful stood,  
While poor *Brigantes*\*, from their utmost  
bounds,

Trembled beneath the horrors of his sword.  
The brave *Agricola*§, whose wisdom beam'd  
A double lustre on triumphant *Rome*,  
Perhaps encamp'd his hardy veterans here,  
When in the daring march they northward  
bent,

And conquering all before him, drove thy sons,  
*Fierce Caledonia!* to their inmost mountains.  
Nor honour'd less were these auspicious fields,  
When proud with great *Britannia's* sons they  
shone,

And gleam'd destruction on the rebel bands†,  
Here *Wade*, with every gen'rous virtue bless'd,  
Inspir'd humanity and courage round him ;  
Here *Wentworth*, great in cabinet and field,

\* The *Brigantes* were the British inhabitants of Yorkshire and Lancashire      § Julius *Agricola*. See his life by *Tacitus*.

† The English army was encamped at Northallerton, in 1746.

Assum'd the port of Mars, and *Huske* too here,  
With *Cholmley*, gallantly display'd that fire,  
Which sav'd on *Falkirk's* field, their suffering  
country.

Nor be the foreign chiefs, my muse, forgot,  
Britain must always honour a *Nassau*,  
That name alone can strike her foes with ter-  
ror.

Great *Swertzenberg* must here command a  
place ;

Brave heroes ! you convinc'd a doubting world  
That, even then, the Dutch rewarded virtue.

Now smiling peace again illumes the plain,  
And gives a humbler, but a happier scene :  
Now nibbling flocks and lowing heifers stray,  
Where late white tents and glittering arms  
were rang'd ;

The thrush succeeds the thunder of the drum,  
The flowers rise blooming from their tramp-  
led beds,  
And lavish nature pours out all her charms.  
Hail happy Liberty ! Celestial maid !  
Thy influence brightens all our smiling scenes,

Adds joy to joy and warms the expanded bosom :

Hail happy liberty ! our noblest pride !

Peace dwells within our walls, and plenteousness

Proclaims around thy ever gentle sway :

Long may'st thou reign the guardian of this Isle !

Long warm her future sons to acts of greatness !

Long may the nations envy Britain's freedom !

Thy gift, great CUMBERLAND ! be thine the praise.



---

## *A Poetical Epistle*

F R O M

Miss A. C R O S F I E L D

T O

A L L A N R A M S A Y,

*The celebrated Scotch Pastoral Poet; written in the year 1751.*

---

**F**AIN wad I join the blithsome lay,  
And pou a sprig of Scottish bay;  
For Scotland has sic rowth of wit,  
She weel can spare a friend a bit.  
Sing then my muse, in lilting strains,  
The glory of the British plains,  
Wha fra auld *Thames*, to silver *Spey*,  
Excells and bears the gree away:  
When on his *Forth*, as flowery braes,  
He warbles saft his tuneful lays.  
See! how the lads and lasses thrang  
To listen to his blithsome sang:  
When dory Bell begins to mane,

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What wooer wad na turn agane ?  
Or wha but hings his lugs to hear,  
Of scornfu Nancy's biting jeer ?  
While Bessy Bell and Mary Grey  
Split a' the laddies hearts in twa ;  
And bra Lochaber warlike swain,  
Mak's ilka listning lass his ain.  
But ah ! what heavenly concert springs,  
Whene'er the *Gentle Shepherd* sings.  
The pastoral muse ower lang mistain  
Now shaws us how she ought to reign ;  
And busk'd in nature's sweetest flowers,  
Fra cowslip glens and hawthorn bowers,  
O'er all the glaring tinsil flowers.  
Oh *Ramsay* ! lang may ye be found  
The ferlie of the nations round !  
Lang may ye shine ( alas from far ! )  
The Poets northern star !  
And when ye break the mortal chain,  
Ascend to music like your ain.





